

**Washington, DC** – U.S. Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced Friday that nearly \$1.7 million in Community Development Block grants through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, or ARRA, also known as the Stimulus plan.

“The infrastructure of our communities is what determines the quality of life for our residents,” said Congressman **Ciro D. Rodriguez**. “When streets routinely flood and basic services are in jeopardy, which often occurs in our border communities, government can step in and help. The Stimulus plan is working and making life better for people in communities all over.”

The grants announced Friday are as follows:

The City of Alpine      \$234,859 for street improvements

Culberson County      \$234,869 for fire protection facilities improvements

Maverick County	\$600,516 for flood/drainage improvements to Seco Mines Colonia
-----------------	---

Presidio County	\$234,859 for flood/drainage improvements to Cibolo Creek levee
-----------------	---

Val Verde County	\$349,667 for water infrastructure improvements
------------------	---

**TOTAL** \$1,654,770

Alpine Mayor Jerry Johnson said the \$234,859 will be a “shot in the arm” in the city’s ability to maintain its streets.

“Alpine is like any small town. We do the best we can to maintain our streets, and any funding we can get goes a long way to helping us keep them in good shape,” Mayor Johnson said. “I

don't think we've ever had a Congressman who has shown the leadership and commitment to us that Congressman Rodriguez does. He has shown tremendous support for this small town in West Texas and we are most appreciative of that."

Maverick County Judge Pepe Aranda said the grant monies announced Friday will significantly help his community.

"The Seco Mines Colonia is one of the oldest colonias in Maverick County," Judge Aranda said. "The basic needs of residents are utilities, water, wastewater and paving, which includes drainage. A lot of these are low-lying areas and when it rains, they get flooded quickly. These improvements will restore some tranquility and peace to residents and I appreciate Congressman Rodriguez's leadership in always working hard for the benefit of the community.

# # #